

Guide to APA Style Basics

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For more information consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 5th edition (Call Number: ref BF 76.7 P83 2001) or visit <http://www.csuchico.edu/lref/newciting.html>

Formatting the Reference List

1. Reference list starts on a new page. Type the word “References” centered at the top of the page.
2. Double-space all reference list entries.
3. Use hanging indent form. The first line of each reference is set flush left and subsequent lines are indented one half inch.
4. Arrange **alphabetically**, not by format of publication: book, journal, etc.
5. The author should be the first element, even for web pages. If no author is present, use editor name. If no editor is present, start with book title or article title.
6. List author’s last name, followed by a comma then initials for first and middle name. Do not spell out author’s first or middle name.
7. Use "&" instead of "and" when listing multiple authors of a single work.
8. For a journal article with more than six authors, list the first six authors and then write “et al.” This Latin phrase is an indication that the work has more authors than the six listed.
9. The date is always the second element and is contained in parentheses.
10. Book and periodical titles should be in *italics*. Volume numbers of periodicals should be in *italics*.
11. If a journal has both a volume and an issue number, write the volume number followed by the issue number in parenthesis. There is no space between the volume number and the open parenthesis.
12. Article titles are plain text. No quotes or italics.
13. Capitalize only the first word of the title and the subtitle for books, book chapters, and article titles.
14. Capitalize the first letter of each word in a periodical title except articles (a, an, the).
15. Each element (author, date, title, etc.) of a citation is separated by a period and one space.

See Chapter 4 of the *Publication Manual* for more details on formatting.

Reference Examples

Book, one author:

Fussell, P. (1975). *The Great War and modern memory*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Chapter from book:

Marcus, J. (1989). The asylums of Antaeus: Women, war, and madness—is there a feminist fetishism?

In H. A. Veaser (Ed.), *The new historicism* (pp. 132-151). New York: Routledge.

Journal article (print, microform, PDF), one author:

Mott, F. W. (1916). The effects of high explosives upon the central nervous system. *The Lancet*, 1, 331-338.

Journal article (print, microform, PDF), more than six authors:

Johnson, A.J., Wittenberg, E., Haigh, M., Wigley, S., Becker, J., Brown, K., et al. (2004).

The process of relationship development and deterioration: Turning points in friendships that have terminated. *Communication Quarterly*, 52(1), 54-67.

Journal article (online from a library subscription database), two authors:

Schneiderman, L. & Jecker, N. (1998). Judging who should live: Schneiderman and Jecker on the duty not to treat. *Journal of Medicine & Philosophy*, 23, 500-515. Retrieved March 20, 2002, from Academic Search Elite database.

Journal article (online from an Internet-only journal), one author:

Fredrickson, B.L. (2000, March 7). Cultivating positive emotions to optimize health and well-being. *Prevention & Treatment*, 3, Article 0001a. Retrieved April 4, 2004, from <http://content.apa.org/journals/pre/3/1/1>

Newspaper article, one author:

Tommasini, A. (1998, October 27). Master teachers whose artistry glows in private. *New York Times*, p. B2.

Newspaper article, no known author:

Cigarette sales fall 30% as California tax rises. (1999, September 14). *New York Times*, p. A17.

Article from CQ Researcher (electronic version):

Hatch, D. (2003, June 6). Drug company ethics. *The CQ Researcher Online*, 13, 521-544. Retrieved July 4, 2003, from <http://library.cqpress.com/cqresearcher>

Web page with no known author and no known date:

GVU's 8th WWW user survey. (n.d.). Retrieved April 2, 2004, from http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/user_surveys/survey-1997-10/

Reference Citations in Text

In addition to the list of references at the end of your paper, you need to cite your sources in the text of your paper. The author's last name and the year are always listed. If the article has more than six authors, write only the first author's name, followed by "et al." If there is no known author, list the title in quotation marks and the date. A page or paragraph number is required for verbatim quotations.

See sections 3.34, 3.94-3.102 and 4.09 of the *Publication Manual* for more details on citing sources in the text.

Examples of Citations in Text**Author's name in text (no page number):**

Walker (2000) compared reaction times...

Author's name in reference (no page number):

In a recent study of reaction times (Walker, 2000)...

Author's name in text (page number):

According to Jones (1998), "Students often had difficulty using APA style, especially when it was their first time" (p. 199).

Author's name in reference (page number):

She stated, "Students often had difficulty using APA style," (Jones, 1998, p. 199), but she did not offer an explanation as to why.

No known author: Use an abbreviated version of the title of the page in quotation marks to substitute for the name of the author. Example:

A similar study was done of students learning to format research papers ("Using APA," 2001).

No known author or date: Use the first few words from the title and the abbreviation n.d. ("no date"). Example:

In another study of students and research decisions, it was discovered that students succeeded with tutoring ("Tutoring and APA," n.d.).